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1. The HANDBAG GmbH at 40/41 Rosenthaler Strasse in Berlin is engaged in effecting illegal delivery of goods from Western Germany to East-Berlin and selling commodities from the Soviet Zone of Germany in the West for western money. * The firm maintains a store at 10 Taubertstrasse, Berlin-Oberschoeneweide.
2. The firm was established by Tempelhaagen, (fnu), an SED member, who resides in Berlin-Lichtenberg; and Steinbrecher, (fnu), chief of the Hauptpruefungsamt of the Magistrate of East-Berlin. It is believed that they acted on orders of the Magistrate of East-Berlin of the SED. They each contributed 25,000 DM east to the original capital, however, the money was refunded to them within a few days. One of the most influential partners in the firm was one Tabuchin (fnu), who is believed to be a Pole of Jewish descent. He is about 55 years of age and lives at an unidentified address in Berlin-Charlottenburg, telephone 912303.
3. The firm obtained the necessary certificates from the East-Berlin Magistrate for importing goods into East-Berlin. Its earnings consist chiefly of commissions paid to the firm by Tabuchin. From the earnings approximately 32,000 DM west were paid to the SED Landesverband in Berlin, prior to August 1950.
4. Among other transactions HANDBAG delivered a quantity of the preparation Frigen, a product of the Hoechst Farbwerke (the dye stuff combine in Hoechst) to Kaelte-Maschinen. The latter is a firm in East-Berlin, which manufactures refrigerators, its entire output is diverted to reparations deliveries. ** Other western firms dealing with the HANDBAG included the Rhein-Wuerstahl in Duesseldorf, and the Eisen und Stahl AG in Berlin-Reinickendorf. Most of the illegal deliveries are effected through these firms and the Hoechst Farbwerk. The transactions of HANDBAG are believed to have doubled in volume since the first quarter of 1950.

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